

## **MINUTES**

### **MONTANA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES 60th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION**

#### **COMMITTEE ON BUSINESS AND LABOR**

**Call to Order:** By Chairman Scott Mendenhall, on March 21, 2007  
at 8:00 A.M., in Room 172 Capitol.

#### **ROLL CALL**

**Members Present:**

Rep. Scott Mendenhall, Chairman (R)  
Rep. Jim Keane, Vice Chairman (D)  
Rep. Mike Milburn, Vice Chairman (R)  
Rep. Elsie Arntzen (R)  
Rep. Shannon Augare (D)  
Rep. Scott Boggio (R)  
Rep. Ernie Dutton (R)  
Rep. Kevin T. Furey (D)  
Rep. Ralph Heinert (R)  
Rep. Llew Jones (R)  
Rep. Harry Klock (R)  
Rep. Michele Reinhart (D)  
Rep. Bill Thomas (D)  
Rep. Kendall Van Dyk (D)

**Members Excused:** Rep. Wayne Stahl (R)  
Rep. Jonathan Windy Boy (D)

**Members Absent:** None

**Staff Present:** Bart Campbell, Legislative Branch  
Nancy Kraft, Committee Secretary

**Audio Committees:** These minutes are in outline form only. They provide a list of participants and a record of official action taken by the committee. The link to the audio recording of the meeting is available on the Legislative Branch website.

**Committee Business Summary:**

Hearing & Date Posted: SB 209, 3/14/2007; SB 214,  
3/14/2007; SB 426, 3/14/2007; SJ  
17, 3/14/2007; SB 540, 3/16/2007  
Executive Action: None

**HEARING ON SJ 17**

**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

00:02:17 Sen. Jim Elliott (D), SD 7, opened the hearing on SJ 17, Jobs, trade, and democracy resolution.

**Proponents' Testimony:**

00:06:19 Don Judge, Teamsters' Local 190  
00:09:57 Tracy Houck, Montana Farmers' Union  
00:14:19 Pat Torgerson, Women Involved in Farm Economics  
00:15:21 Katie Kassmier, Montana Farmers' Union  
00:17:22 Jason Miller, Montana AFL-CIO  
00:18:45 Julia Page, Northern Plains Resource Council

**Opponents' Testimony:**

00:21:00 John Youngberg, Montana Farm Bureau  
00:26:10 Darin Argenbright, Montana Grain Growers' Association  
00:28:22 Errol Rice, Montana Stockgrowers' Association  
00:30:19 Webb Brown, Montana Chamber of Commerce

**Informational Testimony:** None

**Questions from Committee Members and Responses:**

00:32:27 Rep. Van Dyk  
00:33:07 Mr. Rice  
00:36:34 Rep. Heinert  
00:37:18 Mr. Youngberg

**Closing by Sponsor:**

00:38:18 Sen. Elliott

**HEARING ON SB 540**

**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

00:45:41 Sen. Verdell Jackson (R), SD 5, opened the hearing on SB 540, Revise law on sale of gambling equipment.  
[EXHIBIT \(buh60a01\)](#)

**Proponents' Testimony:**

00:53:39 Clint Walker  
00:57:49 Alisha Walker

00:59:09 Ron Turner, Owner of Cowboy Cabin, Whitefish, Montana

01:01:53 Ella Turner

**Opponents' Testimony:**

01:03:57 Gene Huntington, Gambling Control Division, Department  
of Justice

**EXHIBIT** (buh60a02)

01:12:22 Ronda Wiggers, Montana Coin Machine Operators; and for  
Rich Miller, Gambling Industry Association

**Informational Testimony:** None

**Questions from Committee Members and Responses:**

01:18:11 Rep. Keane

01:18:24 Sen. Jackson

01:19:04 Rep. Keane

01:19:22 Mr. Huntington

01:20:35 Rep. Keane

01:20:45 Rep. Thomas

01:21:10 Sen. Jackson

01:24:55 Rep. Milburn

01:28:28 Mr. Huntington

01:29:08 Rep. Keane

01:29:34 Ms. Wiggers

**Closing by Sponsor:**

01:29:50 Sen. Jackson

**HEARING ON SB 214**

**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

01:33:16 Sen. Dave Lewis (R), SD 42, opened the hearing on SB  
214, Independent contractor exemption for certain  
corporate officers.

**EXHIBIT** (buh60a03)

**Proponents' Testimony:**

01:38:02 Nancy Butler, Montana State Fund

01:38:44 Spook Stang, Montana Motor Carriers' Association

**Opponents' Testimony:** None

**Informational Testimony:**

01:40:01 Jerry Keck, Department of Labor and Industry

**Questions from Committee Members and Responses:** None

**Closing by Sponsor:**

01:41:32 Sen. Lewis

**HEARING ON SB 209**

**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

01:42:09 Sen. Jeff Essmann (R), SD 28, opened the hearing on SB 209, Transfer registered process servers to Board of Private Security Patrol Officers.

**Proponents' Testimony:**

01:45:16 Mary Phippen, Montana Association of Clerks of District Court

**EXHIBIT(buh60a04)**

01:48:04 Leo Dutton, Montana Board of Private Security Patrol Officers' and Investigators

**EXHIBIT(buh60a05)**

01:49:03 Jeff Koch, Equity Process Management, Missoula, Montana

01:49:39 Cheryl Wood, Montana Association of Counties

**Opponents' Testimony:**

01:50:05 Wayne Johnston, Department of Labor and Industry

**Informational Testimony:** None

**Questions from Committee Members and Responses:**

01:50:22 Rep. Dutton

01:51:15 Mr. Koch

01:52:19 Rep. Dutton

01:52:42 Sen. Essmann

**Closing by Sponsor:**

01:54:34 Sen. Essman

01:55:11 Break

**HEARING ON SB 426**

**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

02:18:45 Sen. Larry Jent (D), SD 32, opened the hearing on SB 426, Revise attorney fees for medical benefits in work comp cases.

**Proponents' Testimony:**

02:22:34 Tom Murphy, Montana Trial Lawyers' Association  
02:27:44 Sen. Greg Lind  
02:29:17 Pat Melby, Montana Medical Association  
02:31:16 Jim Hunt, Attorney, Helena, Montana  
02:34:15 Bob Olson, MHA  
02:36:16 Jason Miller, Montana AFL-CIO  
02:37:22 Norm Newhall, Attorney, Great Falls, Montana; and for Dr. Allen Ward and Dr. Michael Lockett, Great Falls Orthopedics

**EXHIBIT (buh60a06)**

02:39:27 Don Judge, Teamsters' Local 190 and Montana Injured Workers' Resource Council

**EXHIBIT (buh60a07)**

02:46:11 Andrea Olsen, Montana Trial Lawyers' Association  
02:48:48 Sandy Curriero Luckey, President, Big Sky Central Labor Council and Montana Pharmacy Paraprofessionals  
02:49:29 Kim Greco, Business Local 1686

**Opponents' Testimony:**

02:49:58 Jacqueline Lenmark, American Insurance Association  
02:57:23 Larry Jones, Liberty Northwest  
03:01:37 Nancy Butler, Montana State Fund  
03:04:13 Jason Todhunter, Montana Logging Association  
03:05:53 Bob Worthington, Montana Municipal Insurance Authority; and for Shawn Bubb, Montana School Group Insurance Authority  
03:08:14 Jon Bennion, Montana Chamber of Commerce  
03:08:49 Les Graham, Montana Farm Bureau and Montana Agriculture Safety Program  
03:09:34 Riley Johnson, National Federation of Independent Business  
03:10:09 Spook Stang, Montana Motor Carriers' Association  
03:10:59 Doug Nulle  
03:13:12 Gail Abercrombie, Montana Contractors' Association  
03:13:53 Cheryl Wood, Montana Association of Counties  
03:14:29 Ronda Wiggers, Great Falls and Helena Chambers of Commerce  
03:14:43 George Wood, Montana Self Insurers' Association

**Informational Testimony:**

03:15:04 Jerry Keck, Department of Labor and Industry

**Questions from Committee Members and Responses:**

03:15:28 Rep. Van Dyk  
03:16:13 Mr. Murphy  
03:18:19 Rep. Dutton  
03:18:51 Mr. Murphy  
03:23:44 Rep. Arntzen  
03:24:09 Mr. Judge  
03:25:15 Rep. Mendenhall  
03:28:56 Mr. Keck  
03:29:30 Rep. Mendenhall  
03:29:56 Sen. Jent

**Closing by Sponsor:**

03:30:48 Sen. Jent

**ADJOURNMENT**

03:37:17 Adjournment: 11:40 A.M.

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REP. SCOTT MENDENHALL, Chairman

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NANCY KRAFT, Secretary

SM/nk

Additional Exhibits:

**EXHIBIT ([buh60aad.pdf](#))**